

EVERY FARMER SHOULD HAVE A LIBRARY.

"What does a farmer need of a library?" asks T. Van Hyning, librarian to the University of Florida Experiment Station. "In this age of enlightenment industry one might as well ask, what does a farmer need of a plow? Why not continue digging up a little patch of ground with a flint hoe, as in prehistoric times? The advancement in civilization, intellectual attainments and labor saving devices of today is such that a comparison of the conditions now with those of fifty years ago would warrant the classification of a modern farmer without a library among those of the stone age."

The United States government and the state governments are spending large sums of money in investigating farmers' problems. The results of these investigations are published in bulletins and distributed to the farmers free for their information. Every farmer should have on file such of these publications as are of interest to him, and all those which pertain to the kind of farming which he is doing.

It is not presumed that the farmer should install a large reference library. He should, however, build up one of useful, every day publications, and have the same ready at his command as he does his mule and plow or his rake and hoe. They are just as much his implements as his tools are, or even more so, for they should be consulted first.

An outlay of a dollar or two will provide enough pamphlet filing cases to take care of all the bulletins needed. These cases should be labeled for different subjects, such as fruit, poultry, insects, weeds, farm crops, vegetables, live stock, stock diseases, plant diseases, dairying, soils, spraying, sanitation, buildings, roads, machinery, and miscellaneous. The list can be extended and sub-divided by adding new cases to suit needs, and as the library increases.

Bulletins may be had on almost every subject pertaining to general or specialized farming. They are of general uniform size, and the cases are made to fit them. The cases may be had from Andrus Church & Company, Ithaca, N. Y., for ten cents each. Bulletins may be had free for the asking from the secretary of agriculture, Washington, D. C., or from the various state experiment stations. Send for a list of those available, and order those which are desired.

WILSON'S PROGRAM OF PREPAREDNESS.

Mr. Wilson struck the keynote to the correct principle on which the program of preparedness should be pitched in his opening address in New York. He said that he had been an ardent advocate of peace, and had struggled to keep the United States at peace, but that he considered the liberty and honor of the nation even more important than peace.

The task of making the people of this country believe that it is an urgent need to prepare for the defense of the country would be a comparatively easy one had we all the education and experience in foreign affairs that Mr. Wilson has. Secure in our homes with several thousand miles separating us from our nearest formidable enemy, with nothing much to think of but our business, few of us take any interest in an issue of this kind. It can not be expected that we who have not given the subject close study are competent to judge whether or not we are in a fit condition to defend ourselves if the occasion arises. We have placed men in power who have studied the situation and have reported that some action towards preparedness is necessary. We should rely on their judgment or else, before opposing it, qualify ourselves to be critics. We believe heartily in the principle of allowing each man to make up his own mind, but before an opinion from any man is worth a hill of beans, it must be founded on a study of the facts. The experts of the country have said that we need to be prepared, so let the nation back the president in his attempt to carry out this measure.

That there will be opposition is to be expected, for a measure seldom passes without opposition. If this opposition is founded on reason, well and good enough, but if it is founded on either a mere sentimental feeling against war or a desire to defeat the president, the majority ought to rally to his support.

The fact that the great armament factories are supporting this measure should not influence us against it. It will help their business to be sure, but is that any reason for opposing the measure? Yet we find many people who point with a wise finger to this fact, and say that it is nothing but a scheme to enrich a certain class

of men who deal in ammunition and arms.

The only alternative to self-protection is submission.

JUDGE JOHN W. DODGE SPEAKS WORDS OF WISDOM.

Judge John W. Dodge, a well known Jacksonville attorney, desires that the committee should revise those resolutions and discuss the matter in a long letter addressed to that body. Our space will not permit a reproduction of this splendid letter, but we give the three concluding paragraphs, which are worthy of your careful reading:

"It is one thing to say that the religious belief of a candidate shall be required as a qualification for office, but it is an altogether different proposition to say that an individual voter will not be influenced on account of the religious belief of a candidate. The candidate has a right to office only in the event that a sufficient number of the people think he is the best man. He cannot be deprived of that office solely by reason of his religious belief, and his religious belief cannot be the sole test of his qualification for office. The candidate has a right to any religious belief he may choose; the voter has a like right and the voter in coming to his conclusion as to the candidate who possesses the best qualifications has a right to consider the religious belief of the candidate, as well as any other belief of the candidate. The candidate is not disqualified from holding office by reason of his religious belief, but the candidate gets office by reason of the votes of the individual voters. No candidate has a right to attempt to coerce a voter on account of the religious belief of the voter. While a candidate is not disqualified for office by reason of his religious belief, he may fall to be the choice of the people on account of their religious belief, and the people are not to be denied the right to have a religious belief. The theory of our government is that the people by a majority are the ones who control. If the candidate for any reason does not measure up to the beliefs and opinions of a majority of the people, regardless of how they arrived at their opinion, then the candidate cannot succeed in securing office, although he is not disqualified from holding office."

"I belong to no secret organization aimed at by the executive committee. I am espousing the candidacy of no one. My religious beliefs are guaranteed freedom under the laws of the United States and of the state of Florida; I am influenced by my religious beliefs, and I cannot see for the life of me how any man can really have any kind of religious belief and not be influenced thereby, and believing that all candidates are influenced by their respective beliefs to some extent, at least, I shall expect to consider their religious beliefs, to be influenced thereby to some extent in arriving at my conclusions as to their fitness for office; however, not making it necessarily the sole test of their fitness. My freedom of opinion on religious matters and my life influenced thereby does not disqualify me as a democrat. My democratic vote is sacred to me, and no set of men can tell me as a democrat that my religious belief is not free, or that the religious belief of a candidate must not influence me in the slightest degree."

"If a man's religion teaches him to worship the sun or moon or fire or idols or beasts or what not, I will most certainly be influenced by his religious beliefs in determining his fitness for holding public office, to make laws to govern me. The democratic executive committee says I cannot be so influenced. Religious freedom has been guaranteed to me by a higher law than a democratic executive committee in Florida. I sincerely hope the committee will reconvene and ignore all religious questions."

GOVERNOR TRAMMELL DENIES BEING PRESENT.

The following telegram was sent to several of the leading papers of the state by Governor Park Trammell in answer to the charges that he was present when the famous resolution was adopted, and that he seemed to acquiesce in same:

"I notice in your issue of yesterday that the chairman of the state democratic executive committee is quoted as saying in substance that I was present when the committee was considering and when it adopted the 'Sturkie' resolution, that I made no objection to the resolution, but seemed to acquiesce in what was done. If Mr. Raney made such statement he made a statement that is absolutely erroneous and unsupported by the facts."

"In the first place, while I was in Jacksonville on the day the committee met, I did not at any time go to or attend the meetings of the committee,

Neither Mr. Raney nor any one else saw me in the committee room. I never knew that such resolution was even proposed or so much as thought of until the committee had adopted the resolution and had adjourned. Mr. Raney must have had Senator Bryan in mind as he was present and has over his own signature said he approved of the resolution at the time. The information of such resolution and the action of the committee was brought to my attention for the first time only a few moments before I left Jacksonville on the train leaving there at 5 o'clock in the afternoon for Tallahassee. As I was taking the train I purchased a paper containing the resolution. Immediately upon reading it I expressed to friends on the train my disapproval of sections four and five. This I can prove by Hon. Fred P. Cone, Capt. R. E. Rose and others who were on the train. The very next morning I made plain to a number at the capitol my opposition to said sections of the resolution, and denounced the manner in which it had been railroaded through the democratic party, except the few politicians who had engineered the scheme."

"Since the meeting of the committee I have continued daily to oppose vigorously sections four and five of the resolution, and shall continue to do so until the polls close on June 6. The idea of my being present and acquiescing in the resolution is preposterous. Those back of the scheme very conspicuously avoided letting me know anything of what was going on, just as they kept it a surprise secret from the rank and file of the democratic party until the proposition had been put over. They well knew I would not approve any such attempt to disfranchise a large number of our good democrats."

"Within my rights and privileges as a democrat, as an American citizen, I have urged that the committee should reconvene and rescind sections four and five of the resolution, and then if a majority of the committee so desire, let them submit the new tests for adoption or rejection by the vote of the white democrats qualified to vote as democrats under the same requirements heretofore prescribed for democrats in this state."

"Mr. Raney, within his privilege, has opposed such plan, and urged his objections upon the members of the committee and the public. His repeated opposition to the committee reconvening has impressed many that he would not call the committee together, even if requested by a majority. He had never said that he would or would not, so far as I know, and for this reason I sent him a telegram asking him the direct question. I did not think it necessary to make an argument in behalf of reconvening in my message; but Mr. Raney, in his answer, deemed it proper to make an argument in opposition to another meeting. Mr. Raney is at liberty to publish my wire and his reply. Had Mr. Raney in the outset said as chairman of the committee he would reconvene the committee upon a request of the majority, although he was opposed to meeting again, then the large number of the committee who have favored reconvening would have felt that their request for another meeting would be entertained; but his persistent opposition and his failure until very recently to say he would reconvene upon the request of a majority has impressed many that it was useless to make such request of him. I am glad he has expressed his willingness to call the committee upon the request of a majority."

"PARK TRAMMELL."

PHOMISCO IS NAME OF NEW TOWN.

Bartow, Feb. 1.—Another phosphate mine at Bartow's very doors will soon be a realization. Recently E. C. Stuart sold 2,500 acres adjoining the city limits on the east to the Phosphate Mining Company, and work preparatory to mining has been started. The Seaboard Air Line Railway is laying the spur track to the location of the works, and camps have already been established by the company. While no official information has been given out, it is the opinion of some that a washer plant will be erected first, and the phosphate transported to Nichols, where the company has a splendid dryer plant, to be dried there. This company is one of the strongest in the south, and in addition to the plant to be erected here, has plants at Nichols and Christiana, where they have been very successful. They have been negotiating this deal for a long while; in fact, prospectors have been on the ground several months, but they did not definitely notify Mr. Stuart until a week or so ago that they would take the property. Mr. Stuart did not care to give out any figures in connection with the deal, but the tract is a valuable one, and the consideration ran

up in the big figures.

The name of the town will be Phomisco, which is a contraction of the name of the company, Phosphate Mining Company.

The close proximity to the city of Bartow and the responsibility of the company in possession of the property insures the city of a healthy payroll. Nineteen hundred and sixteen has started right for Bartow, and it is hoped that it will hand out something equally good during the other eleven months.

There are in addition to this new mine, which is almost in the city, three other important phosphate mines within five miles of town.

CELERY NOW MOVING IN CAR LOTS.

East Sanford, Fla., Feb. 1.—Celery began to move in car lots the week ending January 22, three cars being shipped. Harry Ward cut the first car, which brought \$2 per crate. Mr. Ward will get \$2 per crate for his first seven cars. Twenty-four cars of celery went forward last week, and more than sixty cars will move this week. The weather has been too warm for big celery the past week, hastening the work of getting it under the bleaching process. The weather is just right for the small stuff. The actual acreage of self bleaching celery is said to be 995 acres, and there are 100 acres of green top or spring celery set out. Cooler weather is hoped for. Some nice showers here recently.

SWAT THE MANURE PILE AND KILL FLIES.

Manure piles are flies, favorite breeding places. If farmers will keep manure and stables sprinkled with a solution that will kill the larvae, flies need not become numerous. The following treatment, recommended in United States Department of Agriculture bulletin 118, will control flies and, according to John M. Scott, animal industrialist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, will make a noticeable reduction in the number around a given place: Dissolve three-fourths of a pound of borax in two or three gallons of water. Spray or sprinkle manure piles and stables with the solution about twice a week.

This will kill the larvae which hatch from eggs laid in manure. The danger to human health from flies is sufficient to make the wise farmer take these precautions, but if he looks for further justification, it can be found in the protection to live stock. Human diseases are spread by flies, and live stock are worried by them. The danger to human welfare must be conceded, but the loss to live stock is not so easily seen. Animals which are pestered by flies will lose flesh, and stable flies rob them of blood.

STATES' RIGHTS VS. CHILD LABOR.

Washington, Jan. 27.—The Keating child labor bill was taken up in the house, and what was expected to be a bitter fight on the measure, particularly from southern representatives, was begun. The bill would prohibit the interstate shipment of goods made by children under sixteen years of age.

Chairman Webb, of the judiciary committee, a North Carolinian, led the attack on the bill, principally from the standpoint of its constitutionality.

"This undertakes to violate the constitution of the United States," he said. "I challenge any of the measure's supporters to show that the constitution gives congress the right to go into any state and regulate its labor. It no more can do that than it can regulate the marriage laws of a state."

"We must take the broad national viewpoint on this legislation. It is not only the four southern states that are so largely interested in the cotton spinning industry which would be affected by it. The principal of this bill involves all manufacturing interests. Passage of it would mean that congress could enter your states and take charge of its factories and send spies and paid hirelings into them to get evidence against the owners." Representative Lewis, chairman of the labor committee, spoke briefly in favor of the measure.

BOLL WEEVIL CAUSES A CREDIT PANIC.

The boll weevil destroys not only the cotton grower's crop, but his credit as well. Small growers produce the bulk of the cotton crop. They depend on the bankers and merchants to furnish money with which to raise the crop. All through the season they borrow, and pay when the product is sold. When the boll weevil comes, credit scoots to cover and the grower is destitute.

Instead of this sudden withdrawal, which is demoralizing to business

men as well as farmers, E. S. Pace, district agent for the University of Florida Extension Division, suggests a gradual reduction in the amount that is let for a given acreage of cotton. Lenders can do this with safety because experience has taught that the weevil does not wipe out the crop at the first appearance, but reduces it gradually during a few years.

The cut in yield during the first year of weevil infestation is 10 to 20 per cent; the second 25 to 45 per cent; and the third 40 to 60 per cent. Bankers and merchants can limit their advances according to this reduction and give the farmer a chance to work into some other branch of farming.

NATAL REQUIRES GOOD LAND FOR BEST RESULTS.

There's nothing supernatural about Natal grass. Like any other crop, it must have plant food to live on. Consequently the best lands will produce best results if other conditions are happy. It has done best on high, sandy, pine woods land. This is probably due to the good drainage. Favorable results have not been had generally on coarse sand, covered with scrub oak.

According to A. P. Spencer, district agent for the University of Florida Extension Division, drainage seems to be an important factor. It is the opinion of those most familiar with the crop that some flat woods sections will answer for Natal grass after they have been drained and sweetened. Of course hammock lands where drainage is good will produce the hay, but such lands are usually given over to annual crops because the cost of clearing makes them too expensive for Natal.

Like all other crops the more fertile the soil, the better will be the yield. It should not be expected that land almost devoid of fertility will give a good crop. This opinion is current in some sections. There is a great deal of interest in the crop now. This is especially true since bankers in different parts of the state are considering furnishing seeds to farmers free or at a small cost. Others are lending money on the crop. Farmers who intend to sow should obtain their seed immediately and get the best in the market.

PLANT SQUASHES FOR PICKLE WORM.

The farmer who intends to raise cucumbers this season should make provisions at planting time for the pickle worm. The pickle worm loves into buds, blossoms, stems, and leaf stalks as well as the fruits, which it ruins. In addition to the cucumber, it attacks gourds, squashes, cantaloupes, and some times watermelons.

Since it bores into the tissues, none of the sprays are effective against it, according to J. R. Watson, entomologist to the University of Florida Experiment Station. The only way to combat it is to plant something it likes better than cucumbers. It is fond of squashes. A row of these should be alternated with every ten or twelve rows of cucumbers or cantaloupes. The worms will attack the squashes in preference to the other crops. Vines should be examined every three or four days and the infested fruits removed and destroyed. This applies to the crop that is to be protected as well as to the squashes. A succession of squashes should be planted so that fresh ones may be had during the entire growing season of the cucumbers.

WEST FLORIDA INSTITUTES TO STUDY LIVE STOCK.

The farmers' institutes of West Florida are an indication of the progressiveness of the farmers of that section. E. S. Pace, district agent for the University of Florida Extension Division, reports that every section has expressed a desire for lectures and instruction on live stock. The live stock industry of that part of the state has been stimulated by the packing house which is being constructed at Andalusia, Ala. But it is to the credit of the farmers that they recognized the value of cattle and hogs before the packing house came.

The following meetings have been scheduled: Blountstown and Altha, Calhoun county, January 19 and 20; Lynn Haven and Youngstown, Bay county, the 21st and 22nd; Oak Grove and Cottage Hill, Escambia county, the 24th and 25th; Glendale, Dorcas and Paxton, Walton county, the 26th, 27th and 28th; Esto, Holmes county, the 29th; Andrew Williams' School House the 31st; Pleasant Grove and Duncan, Washington county, February 1st and 2nd.

Live stock has been stressed in all the meetings held thus far in west Florida, and the farmers have shown unusual interest. H. C. Lawton, agent for St. Johns county and a specialist in live stock, is assisting

Mr. Other lect.

staff will assist.

GOOD NIGHT, SENATOR.

It's funny! Such queer things happen in politics!

Here we were saying a few weeks ago that we admired a great deal of Senator Nat P. Bryan's quiet work, but we felt that he lacked "pep."

Now he has developed the "pep" all right, but has directed it in such a channel that we are driven clear away from him—we and thousands of others who thought they were democrats until their state executive committee ruled them out by asking them to swear to or subscribe to a lie.

With uncharacteristic promptness and decision, Senator Bryan leaps to the defense of the obnoxious resolutions—resolutions that can have neither righteous defense nor moral defense nor democratic defense.

Good night, SENATOR Bryan!—Leesburg Commercial.

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